2:.Gamble S-5 (1926-1933) 1954 AF 12 North China AF 12

GRAIN

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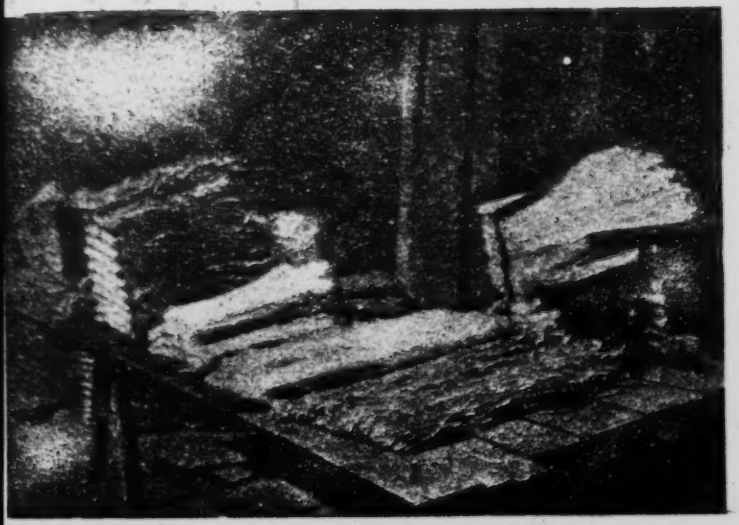

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DRIED NOODLES

[p. 4 (e)]

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MAKING GOURD LADLES

[p. 4(f)]

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would make the difference between the two sweet potato figures less than 8 per cent. 511

The average family expenditure for each of the different kinds of food, the number of families reporting its use, and the average amount used are shown in Table 41. The average price per catty is also given. It will be noted that some 40 per cent of the expenditure for sweet potatoes was for those that had been dried. In the dried form they are often ground and cooked as noodles in very much the same way as some of the grains. Only seven families reported using any rice during the year. 511 262

The average daily consumption of cabbage was 2.3 catties per family, of squash 1.6 catties. The leaves of the white beets were used as a green vegetable; the roots were pickled and eaten for flavoring with other food. The turnips were generally cut in strips, pickled, and used as a salt vegetable. The reported 30 catties of fennel, or anise, included the leaves and stems used as a vegetable as well as the seed used for flavoring.

The average amount of salt used was 6.0 catties (8.0 pounds) per person per year. This agrees very closely with the 6.5 catties per person reported by the salt wholesaler. (See Chapter VIII.)

Meat was used almost exclusively at festival time. About three quarters of the expenditure was for pork, the only meat item reported by all the families. Beef was used by four-fifths of the families. Dates were the only fruit used by all the families.

The clothing expenditure averaged $14.85 per family, or $2.48 per person per year. For the different income groups, the amounts per person varied from $2.10 for the $400–$500 group to $2.73 for the $300–$400 group. 511 291

The details of the average family expenditure for clothes are given in Table 42. Cloth, cotton, shoes, and stockings were the items reported by all the families. Native cloth was woven in Ting Hsien. Foreign cloth was not necessarily made abroad. The name was used to indicate both the kind of cloth and the fact that it was made outside of Ting Hsien. It was woven on machine looms. The native cloth was woven on hand looms. The cotton was the cotton batting used to line winter clothes. Eighty-six feet of native cloth, 10 feet of foreign cloth, and 4.6 catties of cotton were the average purchases. The prices were 7.0 cents a foot for native cloth, 10 cents a foot for foreign cloth, and 40 cents a catty for cotton.

Housing seemed to be relatively adequate for there were more rooms 342 511

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TABLE 42. AVERAGE EXPENDITURE FOR CLOTHING

	Amount	*Families Reporting*
Native cloth	$5.99	34
Foreign cloth	1.07	34
Cotton	1.80	34
Shoes	2.54	34
Stockings	1.45	34
Belts	.02	4
Uniforms	.11	2
Hats	.10	10
Fur	.52	2
Net	.15	1
Bedding	1.10	9
	$14.85	

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TABLE 43. AVERAGE ANNUAL EXPENDITURE FOR MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Income Group	*Social*	*Wine & Tobacco*	*Amusement*	*Household Equipment*	*Medicine & Health*	*Education*
$100–200	$2.71	$0.95	$0.78	$0.57	$0.64	$0.02
200–300	3.15	1.19	1.35	1.03	1.41	0.26
300–400	6.15	3.51	2.56	2.48	2.99	1.03
400–500	5.50	2.88	1.20	2.25	0.80	0.44
Average	4.48	2.24	1.70	1.62	1.83	0.54

Income Group	*Religion*	*Military Assessment*	*Village Assessment*	*Misc.*	*Total*
$100–200	$0.37	$1.39	$0.96	$2.96	$11.35
200–300	0.57	2.19	1.70	4.90	17.75
300–400	0.96	3.25	2.72	3.95	29.60
400–500	0.78	3.10	2.65	4.95	24.50
Average	0.70	2.48	2.03	4.08	21.70

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Several different kinds of cloth were woven in Ting Hsien but two, "big" cloth for local use and "chuang" cloth for export from the hsien, accounted for most of the output. Size of the piece was the principal difference between the two types of cloth. Both were white, both were woven with Tientsin machine spun warp and locally spun woof. There was some variation in the size of the pieces but the big cloth was generally 42 feet long and from 1′2″ to 1′3″ in width. The export cloth was about 36 feet in length and 1′2″ in width.

Other types of cloth were rough big, smooth big, and striped. Both the warp and woof of the rough big cloth were hand spun thread. For the smooth cloth they were both machine spun. A piece of rough cloth was usually 46′ x 1′4″, the smooth cloth 34′ x 1′1″. The striped cloth, striped blue and white, blue and yellow, or yellow and white, was usually 40′ x 1′2″. The yellow thread was spun from yellow cotton. The blue was locally dyed.

Prices varied from market to market but the average price per piece in 1931 was big cloth $1.80, export cloth $1.20, and striped cloth $2.30. The weaver's profit was estimated at 30 cents per piece for the big cloth and 20 cents per piece for the export cloth. Families who had big cloth woven for them supplied the thread and paid the weaver 30 cents per piece.

Big cloth was woven in 378 villages, export cloth in 203. Over 1,000,000 pieces of export cloth and 606,000 pieces of big cloth were produced in 1931. All of the export cloth was sold to the cloth stores and shipped out of Ting Hsien. Figures from the 3rd and 6th Districts indicate that about 23 per cent of the big cloth was used by the weaving families, the rest sold. Cotton cloth was a large cash item for the village families.

It was reported that there was a big decrease in spinning and weaving during the 1st month of the New Year, both because it was vacation and holiday time and because an old custom, followed in some villages, forbade the farmers' daughters to use needle and thread during the 1st moon.

Other materials woven from cotton thread were large and small gauze, waist bands, leg bands to tie trouser bottoms around the ankles, and bags of various sizes. The latter were generally woven from three or four ply thread.

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286 291 Some of the old weavers said that the weaving of the waist bands began in the 6th year of Chia Ch'ing, 1801, when the floods of the T'ang river drove many families from their homes and they had to find some way to keep from starving. Tradition says that at that time someone made a narrow loom like the ordinary cloth loom and began the weaving of the waist bands, which were 4.5 feet long and one inch wide, and the leg bands, which were 3.5 feet long and 2 inches wide.

The waist and leg bands were still woven only on the banks of the T'ang. All of the leg band weavers lived in the 6th District and 90 per cent of the waist band weavers. The other 10 per cent lived across the river in the 5th District.

286 1139 Waist band weaving was an especially prosperous occupation during the early years of the Republic for there was a large market for them in the northwest areas. Poor economic conditions in the northwest had later cut the export of waist bands by some 50 per cent. In 1931 some 70 or 80 per cent of the output was exported to other parts of China. The price of a waist band loom was only $2.50 or $3.00.

Some 90 per cent of the gauze was shipped to the northwest, where it was used for funeral clothes. The other 10 per cent was used in Ting Hsien in making bean curd.

The field reports noted that the heavy cloth woven from three or four ply thread could not be made in the weaving cellars as the dampness wrinkled the cloth.

Cotton Cloth Exports

286 439 435 Records of the cloth stores, figures from the shipping records of the railroads, and the reports of men who had been in the cloth business for many years made it possible to work out a history of the market prices of the chuang (export) cloth, the maximum prices set by the cloth gild, and the number of pieces exported from Ting Hsien to other parts of China during the 40 years from 1892 through 1931. The export and production figures were apparently identical as the cloth, woven in a special size, 36′ x 1′2″, was made exclusively for export to other parts of China and was handled through the cloth markets.

In 1892 the price of the chuang cloth was 700 cash per piece. It was the same for the next 10 years. In 16 years there was only one increase. That was 50 cash, 7 per cent. In the next 12 years, 1908–1919, there were six increases. The amounts were first 50 cash, then 100, then 150,

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known fact that people living under simpler conditions have to use their utensils for a variety of purposes. And it is only in industrially progressive societies that one finds the multiplication of implements and utensils and their increasing differentiation of functions. In compiling the lists, therefore, care has been taken to classify each article according to its primary use, while an article under one class does not preclude the possibility of its being grouped under another.

There are forty-eight inventories altogether. Both the quantity and quality of the articles owned by the families are obviously various and even in this small group are noticeable the gradations of wealth from the standpoint of property. As space does not permit us to reproduce all the inventories, only the cost of the various classes of articles as they were valued at the time of the inquiry are summarized in the following table, while two other lists which lie midway between the families arranged in the order of their value of property are selected as

Table 18.—Average Cost of Clothing and Household Equipment Per Family as Assessed in April 1927, by Income Groups.

Income group	Number of families	Clothes	Bed-clothes	Furniture and utensils	Kitchen utensils	Articles for religious worship	Toilet articles	Ornaments	Miscellaneous	Total
Under $70 ...	3	$ 6.83	$ 2.54	$ 3.47	$ 3.95	—	$ 0.54	$ 0.17	—	$17.50
$ 70-	28	18.57	5.19	6.36	3.12	$ 0.38	.94	1.27	$ 1.57	37.41
$110-	14	30.10	8.91	10.86	4.95	1.32	.95	2.87	6.27	66.25
$150-	3	58.95	13.89	7.48	4.83	—	1.53	1.74	4.21	92.63
All incomes	48	23.72	6.66	7.56	3.81	.61	.96	1.70	3.01	48.03
		PER CENT								
Undeu $70 ...	.....	39.0	14.5	19.8	22.6	—	3.1	1.0	—	100.0
$ 70-	.....	49.6	13.9	17.0	8.3	1.0	2.5	3.4	4.2	100.0
$110-	.....	45.4	13.4	16.4	7.5	2.0	1.4	4.3	9.5	100.0
$150-	.....	63.6	15.0	8.1	5.2	—	1.7	1.9	4.5	100.0
All incomes	.....	49.4	13.9	15.7	7.9	1.3	2.0	3.5	6.3	100.0

5: Tao E-5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

samples showing the kind and quality of articles which families of the intermediate grade of our class generally possess.

Clothes figure most prominently in Table 18, their average cost being almost half of that of all the property owned by the family. Next to it in the order of cost is the furniture, while bed-clothes follow closely. It is noteworthy that on the average more than 60 per cent of the value of the house property should be taken up by the clothes and bedding combined and that more than 80 per cent of the same by the four main classes of articles, viz. clothes, bed-clothes, furniture and kitchen utensils and implements. It is obvious that the paraphernalia which surround the modern "civilized" man in his domestic life are beyond the means of our poor families. Consequently they are denied the comfort and convenience which modern industrial civilization offers. Yet it may be observed that on the whole the household equipment in their possession seems to have been fairly sufficient for them to lead their simple, uneventful life.

One noteworthy feature in Table 18 is that the cost for furniture and utensils, kitchen utensils, ornaments and miscellaneous items of the third income group is much higher than that of any other group. As has been noted above, this may be explained by the better conditions of some of the families in that group in the past.

In presenting the lists of articles owned by two families, an attempt was made to group them under two classes: things for common use and personal belongings. Under the latter are grouped the clothes, bed-clothes and ornaments. A perusal of them reveals two striking features. One is that the cost of personal belongings exceeds that of household articles. This, as has been shown, is the universal feature of all the families studied. Another feature is that almost all the articles are simple and do not endure, being made of cheaper materials and by manual labour. Some articles are sandware, (such as pans and kettles), others are earthenware (such as basins and bowls), while still others are made of grass or reeds (such as brooms and mats). Products of modern manufacture are insignificantly few; even

Household Equipment and Clothing—(*Continued*)

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Family No. 22				Family No. 26			
Articles	No.	Value (estimated)		Articles	No.	Value (estimated)	
		Original	Present			Original	Present
II. PERSONAL BELONGINGS:—	.....	79.12	36.77	Basins, earthen, glazed	3	.25	.12
Head of family: ...	.....	28.90	11.25	Basin, ironstone, glazed	1	.20	.10
Shirts...	3	3.00	1.00	Toilet articles:	.....	2.85	1.40
Trousers	2 pairs	1.60	.50	Wash basin	1	.10	.05
Coat, double	1	1.00	1.00	Towels	2	.30	.10
Leggings, double...	1	1.00	.40	Mirror	1	.50	.10
Gown, cotton padded...	1	5.00	2.00	Toilet case	1	1.00	.30
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.80	.90	Combs	4	.25	.10
Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.40	.70	Hair oil pots	2	.40	.10
Shoes...	3 pairs	2.00	.50	Hair brush	1	.10	.05
Socks, cloth	2 pairs	.50	.20	Soap case...	1	.10	.05
Socks, knitted ...	2 pairs	.60	.05	Shoe brush	1	.10	.05
Hat, felt	1	.80	.20	Articles for worship:	.....	6.40	4.20
Gloves	1 pair	1.00	.20	Statue, bronze ...	1	3.00	3.00
Coverlet, cotton padded	1	5.50	2.00	Incense burners ...	2	.40	.20
Mattress	1	3.50	1.50	Candlesticks	2	3.00	1.00
Pillow	1	.20	.10	Unclassified:	.....	1.20	0.33
Wife:	.....	25.00	11.90	Fans	2	.10	.08
Shirts...	4	5.00	2.00	Calendar	1	.10	.05
Trousers	2 pairs	1.60	.80	Knife...	1	1.00	.20
Trousers, double ...	1 pair	1.20	.40	II. PERSONAL BELONGINGS:—	.....	81.65	32.64
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.80	1.00	Head of family: ...	.....	32.70	14.70
Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.40	1.10	Shirts	2	2.00	1.00
Shoes...	2 pairs	.80	.30	Gown...	1	2.40	.80
Shoes, cotton padded...	2 pairs	1.00	.20	Trousers	2 pairs	1.80	.70
Socks, cloth	2 pairs	1.00	.20	Coat, double	1	1.50	.60
Socks, knitted ...	3 pairs	1.00	.10	Trousers, double ...	1 pair	1.00	.80
Leg-bands	1 pair	.20	.10	Gown, cotton padded	1	5.00	3.00
Hair pins, silver ...	2	3.00	2.50	Coat, cotton padded	1	1.80	.70
Pin, silver	1	.40	.30	Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.50	.60

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Household Equipment and Clothing—*(Continued)*

Family No. 22				Family No. 26			
Articles	No.	Value (estimated)		Articles	No.	Value (estimated)	
		Original	Present			Original	Present
Earrings, silver	1 pair	.30	.25	Leggings, cotton padded	1 pair	1.00	.50
Hairnet, thick	1	.10	.05	Shoes	2 pairs	2.00	.40
Coverlet, cotton padded	1	4.00	1.50	Shoes, cotton padded	1 pair	1.00	.30
Mattress	1	2.00	1.00	Socks, cloth	3 pairs	1.50	.50
Pillow	1	.20	.10	Socks, knitted	2 pairs	.60	.20
Son:	.....	4.52	2.56	Hat, felt	1	.90	.20
Diapers, infant's	8	1.00	.50	Hat, fur	1	1.90	1.00
Coat, double	1	.40	.20	Gloves	1 pair	1.00	.20
Coats, cotton padded	2	1.00	.50	Coverlet, cotton padded	1	4.00	2.00
Shoes	1 pair	.12	.06	Mattress	1	1.90	.80
Hat, cloth	1	.10	.05	Pillow	1	.20	.10
Coverlet, cotton padded	1	1.00	.80	Wife:	.....	22.85	7.90
Mattress	3	.90	.40	Shirts	2	3.00	1.00
Pillow	1	.10	.05	Trousers	2 pairs	1.60	.60
Daughter 1:	.....	11.40	5.56	Coat, double	1	1.80	.50
Shirts	2	2.00	1.00	Trousers, double	1 pair	1.20	.80
Trousers	1	.80	.40	Coat, cotton padded	1	1.60	.70
Trousers, double	1 pair	1.00	.53	Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.50	1.00
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.60	1.00	Shoes	2 pairs	2.00	.50
Trousers, cotton padded	1	1.40	.70	Shoes, cotton padded	1 pair	1.00	.40
Shoes	2 pairs	.80	.40	Socks, cloth	3 pairs	1.50	.40
Socks, cloth	2 pairs	1.00	.40	Socks, knitted	3 pairs	1.00	.30
Socks, knitted	1 pair	.30	.20	Earrings, silver	1 pair	.30	.10
Handkerchief	1	.10	.08	Hair pin, silver	1	.15	.10
Coverlet, cotton padded	1	1.50	.50	Coverlet, cotton padded	1	4.00	1.00
Mattress	1	.80	.30	Mattress	1	2.00	.40
Pillow	1	.10	.05	Pillow	1	.20	.10
Daughter 2:	.....	9.30	5.50	Son 1:	.....	7.00	1.64
Shirts	2	2.00	1.00	Shirt	1	1.00	.50
Trousers	2 pairs	1.00	1.50	Trousers, double	1 pair	.60	.30

Household Equipment and Clothing—*(Continued)*

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Family No. 22

Articles	No.	Value (estimated) Original	Present
Coat, double	1	1.40	.70
Trousers, double ...	1 pair	1.00	.30
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.60	.80
Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.00	.50
Shoes...	1 pair	.10	.05
Socks, cloth	2 pairs	.80	.40
Socks, knitted ...	1 pair	.20	.15
Handkerchief ...	1	.10	.05
Pillow	1	.10	.05

Family No. 26

Articles	No.	Value (estimated) Original	Present
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.40	.20
Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.20	.20
Shoes...	2 pairs	.40	.05
Socks, knitted ...	2 pairs	.40	.10
Leg-bands	1 pair	.10	.04
Hat, felt	1	.80	.20
Shawl	1	1.00	.10
Pillow	1	.10	.05
Son 2:	.....	7.20	2.65
Trousers	1 pair	1.00	.40
Coat, double	1	1.40	.30
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.50	1.00
Trousers, cotton padded	1 pair	1.20	.40
Shoes	2 pairs	.60	.20
Socks, knitted ...	3 pairs	1.00	.10
Hat, cloth	1	.40	.20
Pillow	1	.10	.05
Son 3:	.....	2.70	.75
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.00	.40
Trousers, cotton padded	2 pairs	.80	.20
Hat, cloth	1	.40	.05
Diapers, infant's	2	.50	.10
Daughter:	.....	9.20	5.00
Shirts	3	2.40	1.00
Coat, double	1	1.50	.70
Coat, cotton padded	1	1.00	.50
Trousers, cotton padded	1	.80	.40
Shoes...	2 pairs	.40	.10
Socks, knitted ...	2 pairs	.30	.05
Bracelets, silver ...	1 pair	2.00	1.80
Earrings, silver ...	1 pair	.30	.20
Ring, silver	1	.30	.20
Pillow	1	.20	.05

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352 china, glass ware, metallic ware, and wooden furniture are con-
415 sidered high-class and expensive. If we except cotton cloth,
412 enamel ware and other manufactured commodities, and, of course, kerosene, modern machine production may indeed be said to have little effect, except perhaps indirectly, on the life of our families. It seems that by means of native production, sufficient quantities and kinds of articles are supplied to the primitive needs of them. This, it must be remembered, represents the prevailing condition of the material equipment of the poor families in Peking, a town which may claim to be modern in having a water system, electric light, trains, motor-cars, telephones and even the radio. Now if the poor families of the modern town still have to live in such a simple and unpretentious material environment that forms the arena of their domestic life, how can the mass of Chinese peasants living in the interior and out of the way districts expect to have anything better? Under such circumstances, neither dumping nor salesmanship, nor any other modern means of creating the demand will help these poor people to make use of manufactured articles. Obviously, in order to raise their standard of life, one must raise the level of their earnings.

CLOTHING

291 Among the principal items of expenditure, clothing formed but less than 7 per cent of the total. The figure is indeed incredibly low and it seems all but conceivable that the average expenses for clothing per family in six months should have been only $1.03 for the lowest income group and $6.94 for all the groups. However, reasons are not wanting to illumine such an appalling phenomenon among the poorer classes of families.

In the first place, the low incomes received by them did not permit even an adequate spending of money on clothing. Both the food and the house rent being charges which they must meet, no matter how they are met, clothing would naturally be the first item on which they would save as much as conditions permit.

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In other words, the pinch of their straitened circumstances could first of all be felt upon their clothing expenses. Obviously a limit must be set to clothing economy as people could not possibly go about unclad, nor even so ill-clad as unbecoming to their station in life. Yet there are always means by which the frugal housewife would be able to cut down clothing expenses to a minimum. Old cotton-padded garments, for instance, may be re-made into new ones after proper cleaning and tailoring. The garments of the adult may be re-fitted for the young to wear, and the purchase of second-hand clothing sometimes enables one to save half of what she has to pay for the new. These and other means, an efficient and resourceful housewife of a poor family ought to know and have recourse to at times.

It may perhaps be contended that as our inquiry was conducted in the winter months, it is more likely that a much higher expenditure for clothing would have been needed then than in any other season and consequently the clothing expenses during the other months must have been insignificant, or even negligible. Thus, the clothing expenses as disclosed by our investigation may be regarded as sufficiently high for the working families. This may be admitted as true in general and the very straitened circumstances under which our working families usually live also warrant such a contention. But as clothing is a comparatively durable commodity, our data on it which are limited only to six months can hardly be considered as complete. Strictly speaking, even the study of clothing expenses for a twelve months period may sometimes do injustice to them. It seems that in order to secure incontestably reliable data about this item, they should be studied for a period of at least three years.

In view of these reasons, an inventory of the clothes in the possession of the forty-eight families would no doubt shed much fresh light upon the clothing conditions of our families. This, as has been noted, was duly made and two summary tables are now presented below.

Chinese clothes may be roughly divided according to their

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291 make into four groups: single, double, cotton-padded and fur-lined. Under single garments may be grouped shirts, drawers, gowns and vests; all being made without lining. Double garments are all lined and include coats, trousers, gowns, vests (to be worn over the gown), jackets and leggings. Cotton-padded and fur-lined garments include the same variety of forms as the double garments. This classification of the four groups of clothing was followed in our analysis of the inventories. It will be observed that bedding, head wear and foot wear were all excluded from our consideration.

Of the 220 persons in the families under investigation, the clothing of 197 was recorded; eleven persons who were staying away from their respective homes furnished no data, while twelve were infants under one year.

Table 19.—Distribution of Persons According to Number and Kind of Garments in Possession

Number of garments	Kind of Garments			
	Single	Double	Cotton-padded	Fur-lined
	Number of persons possessing the specified number of garments			
0	1	38	1	187
1	12	64	3	8
2	59	66	125	2
3	43	26	53	—
4	32	2	13	—
5	37	1	2	—
6	9	—	—	—
7	3	—	—	—
10	1	—	—	—
Total	197	197	197	197

It will be seen from Table 19 that the majority of persons possessed two to three single, one to two double, and two cotton-padded, garments. Fur-lined dresses being something of a luxury and only very rarely worn by the poorer class of people,

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it seems natural that 187 persons went without them. It is hardly necessary to add that the table was meant to show merely the mode of each kind of wear which every person possessed and that the persons enumerated under the various kinds of garments were not mutually exclusive. 291.

To supplement Table 19 an attempt was made to arrange in order the different groups of garments according to the number owned by various persons, and numbers representing the lower quartile, the median, and the upper quartile of each group were found as follows:

Kind of Garments	Q_1	Median	Q_3	Average
Single	2	3	5	3.3
Double	1	1	2	1.5
Cotton-padded	2	2	3	2.4
Fur-lined	0	0	0	.06

A general view of the ownership of clothing may be gathered from the table above. Of the 197 persons, one half had more than and the other half had less than three single, one double and two cotton padded garments. If the latter half is again subdivided into two, it will be found that the two subdivided halves are in the same position as those marked by the median, except in regard to single garments. If the former half having more garments is also subdivided into two halves, it will be found that one half has more than five single, two double and three cotton padded garments, while the other half has less than the quantities of the various kinds mentioned. The arithmetical average of each of the four groups of garments for all the persons is however slightly higher than the median.

From the foregoing considerations, some conclusions may be drawn. Firstly, the wardrobe of the families under investigation was pitiably poor; only one fourth of their members had extra single garments for change, while less than one fourth could boast of having extra cotton-padded garments. While the latter kind of wear may possibly be worn throughout the whole winter

5: Tao E-5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

291 without change, it is however inconceivable that the single garments could be worn for months, if they are not washed at frequent intervals. It is highly probable that the single garments of the poorer people are but seldom washed, but as clothes of different members in a family are as a rule exchangeable, laundering may perhaps not occasion much difficulty, if in it are found extra suits. Secondly, double garments seem to be of less importance to the poorer class of people. Indeed it is not uncommon among the people of the rural districts that they put on cotton-padded clothing as soon as single garments are discarded. Thirdly, cotton-padded garments are generally worn without any underclothing, the latter being only an extravagance to those who have an abundant supply of single garments.

Living from hand to mouth, the poorer people, it seems, must have rested content with their scanty stock of clothing. In fact, one cannot help thinking that they fared scarcely better in this respect than the peasants of mediaeval Europe. Whereas clothes with the latter were often "homemade from beginning to end, spun, woven, cut and fashioned"[1] those of the Chinese are only cut and fashioned in the home, the clothing materials being mainly supplied from the mills in Lancashire, Osaka or Shanghai.

[1] See Coulton Op. cit. p. 318.

7: Gamble AF12 North China AF12

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[For detailed information on the clothing budgets of 283 Peiping families in 1926-1927, see pp. 109-120, category 116.]

7: Gamble S-5 (1926-1927) 1933 AF12 North China AF12

VI

CLOTHING

SUMMER dress for the poorer people is usually a 291
shirt and trousers for the men, a coat and trousers for the women, cloth shoes and possibly cotton cloth socks for both. The shirts, coats, and trousers are made of single thicknesses of blue cotton cloth. When possible, a long light-weight gown is added to a man's wardrobe. Winter dress is a coat and trousers made of two thicknesses of cloth and padded with cotton. There is also an intermediate weight of two thicknesses of cotton cloth. Unless the family is very poor, the man wears a long padded gown in winter. On cold days hip-length padded leggings, *t'ao k'u,* are often worn over summer trousers, and in the coldest weather over padded trousers. Padded shoes are often worn in winter for extra warmth. When additional light-weight garments are available, they are added, one on top of another, as the weather turns cool. Silks and furs are worn by well-to-do families. Only occasionally is a second-hand fur-lined coat secured by some of the poorer families.

An inventory of the clothing of 48 families with incomes of less than $35 a month found the median wardrobe to be three single, one double, and two cotton padded garments.[1] We attempted no inventory of the property of

[1] No. 39.

7: Gamble S-5 (1926-1927) 1933 AF12 North China AF12

291 our families, but the clothing figures for the lower income groups would probably be about the same.

511 The total expenditure for clothing was $16,333.85, an average of $57.75 per family, and $12.45 per person. The averages for the different income groups are much more significant, of course. The average expenditure per family per year varied from $2.30 for the $5 group, to $482.65 for the $300 group. The income group averages were all less than $30 per year until the family income was over $40 a month, and less than $80 until the income was over $90 a month. (Figure 8, page 48, and Table 27.)

Eight families spent over $300, and 22 over $200 for clothes during the year. The maximum amount for any family was $997.30. This was the expenditure of a family in the $300 group and included the amount spent for clothes for the wedding of one son and the engagement of another. The minimum expenditure reported was 20 cents. One would naturally be inclined to question the accurateness of such a small amount. There were, however, seven other families who reported the expenditure of less than $1 for clothing during the year. Three of these were servants to whom garments may have been given, but a clerk, a teacher, and a flower-maker included in the seven families, probably would have to buy all their clothing. Thirty-two families spent less than $5 for clothing during the year, and 97 families, all with incomes of less than $60 a month, spent less than $1 a month, or $12 a year. Fifty-two per cent of all the families spent less than $2 a month, and 65.5 per cent less than $3 a month. Two families spending less than $2 a month for clothing were in the $90 income group.

7: Gamble S-5 (1926-1927) 1933 AF12 North China AF12

ent value of their clothing and bedding; and about 20 per cent of the original value of clothing and bedding. Five years is a long time for a cotton garment to wear, but it is surprising what can be done with patches, and second-hand clothing can be bought very cheaply in some of the markets.

We have not attempted any study of the detailed clothing expenditure. When the families are able to have new clothes, they usually buy the cloth and make it up themselves. Even the majority of the cloth shoes are made at home. Hats, garters, knitted socks, the black bands that are tied around the bottoms of the trousers, some of the shoes, are usually bought ready-made. Naturally these articles are only a small part of the clothing budget. The prices of second-hand clothing have not been investigated, as they would not be significant.

If the families are grouped according to the amount of income per food cost consumption unit, the average proportion spent for clothes by the families in the different groups shows virtually no tendency to increase until the income is more than $17.50 per unit per month. Then there is a distinct rise from 6 per cent to over 10 per cent. With a further increase in income, the proportion used for clothing remained approximately the same, though with some fluctuations, until the income was more than $100 per unit per month. Then it dropped almost one-half, to 5.3 per cent. (Table 14.)

8: Lin E-5 (1927)1928 AF12 North China AF12

362 equivalent adult males, and the average amount of rent was $22.88
511 a year per family or $4.67 a year per capita. Very few families
427 could afford to live in two-roomed houses. The common way is to rent a one-and-half room house which consists of a kitchenet and a bed room. Sometimes two families may share a three-roomed house with 1½ rooms for each. Thus it is possible to do cooking in one room and sleep in the other. But it is also found that certain families live in one room where a kitchen stove is connected with the *kang*. This is not only uncomfortable but also far from being hygienic, since food is prepared in the bed-room.

511 The clothes the worker and his people wear are gener[illegible]
291 made of cloth. Imported satin is hardly used except in very few families with high income. Some poor families were found to buy flour bags from the factory and make them into garments.

511 Expenses for fuel and light include those for coal, reeds (a
372 plant used for fuel in North China) oil, and water. Some families picked their own reeds and coal for fuel. The value of fuel for such families was estimated and included both in family income and in the fuel expenses.

511 Miscellaneous expenses are exceptionally high, as they include both ordinary expenses for sanitation, social intercourse, tea and tobacco, furniture, toilet articles, new year entertainments, religion and amusements, and occasional expenses for transportation, education, medicine, marriage and funeral service. Extra charge for marriage and funeral accounted, in most cases, for the swelling of the expenditure figures in the miscellaneous group. For instance, the marriage and funeral expenses of the family in the sixth income group alone amounted to $120 which is much higher than the miscellaneous expenses of any other group.

In Table 38, the income, total expenses and food expenses per family together with the total and food expenses per adult male are classified according to equivalent adult male groups. It may be noted from the Table that income, total expenses and food expenses per family increase with the number of equivalent adult males in family of each group, but food expenses per equi-